



U.S. Immigration
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News Release

Four sentenced for selling national security sensitive items to Chinese entities

NEWARK, N.J. - Four company owner/operators of a Mount Laurel, N.J. business were sentenced yesterday in federal court in New Jersey after pleading guilty last year to charges that they used their business to illegally transfer sensitive national-security controlled items to state-sponsored research institutes within the People's Republic of China, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

Manten Electronics, Inc., president **Xu Weibo**, 39, a/k/a "Kevin Xu,"; purchasing agent **Xiu Ling Chen**, 35, a/k/a "Linda Chen," (wife of Kevin Xu); vice president **Hao Li Chen**, 30, a/k/a "Ali Chan," (brother of Linda Chen); and company controller **Kwan Chun Chan**, 30, a/k/a "Jenny Chan," (wife of Ali Chan), all of Mount Laurel, were sentenced by U.S. District Judge Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr., in federal court in Newark. All of the defendants are naturalized U.S. citizens.

Xu Weibo was sentenced to 44 months incarceration and two years supervised release. Last September, Xu Weibu pleaded guilty to a three-count Information charging one count of conspiracy to violate the Export Administration Act and the Arms Export Control Act, and one count each of violating the Export Administration Act and the Arms Export Control Act.

Hao Li Chen was sentenced to 30 months incarceration and two years supervised release. Xiu Ling Chen was sentenced to 18 months incarceration and two years supervised release. Kwan Chun Chan was sentenced to two years probation with electronic home monitoring. Last September, these three defendants each pleaded guilty to one-count Informations charging conspiracy to violate United States export laws, namely the Export Administration Act and the Arms Export Control Act.

Judge Greenaway also signed an order that the four defendants pay a remaining forfeiture amount of \$69,943.66 to the federal government.

The four defendants were arrested on July 1, 2004, as a result of an investigation by a multi-agency task force consisting of agents from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the U.S. Department of Commerce. The investigation began in January 2003.

The defendants pleaded guilty to illegally exporting items that are used in a wide variety of defense weapons systems, including radar, smart weapons, electronic warfare and communications. According to court documents, the illegal exports were destined for entities controlled by the Chinese government. Among those entities was a Chinese Research Institute that the United States government has identified as posing an

unacceptable risk in the development of weapons of mass destruction or missiles used to deliver weapons of mass destruction.

The defendants admitted that they used various techniques to conceal their export activities, such as providing false written and verbal statements that purported that the recipient of the restricted items was a United States corporation rather than a government entity of the People's Republic of China, and falsifying shipping documents to conceal the true contents of their shipments to China.

“By combining the resources of several law enforcement agencies in this case, we were able to dismantle a network that posed a serious homeland security threat. In the post 9/11 world, keeping sensitive U.S. weapons technology from falling into the wrong hands has never been more important,” said John Kelleghan, acting Special Agent-in-Charge of ICE in Philadelphia.

US Attorney Christie credited special agents from the ICE Special Agent-in-Charge office in Philadelphia, the FBI Field office in Newark, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Export Enforcement in New York with developing the investigation. The Government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorneys Judith H. Germano, of the Criminal Division in Newark, and R. Stephen Stigall, of the Criminal Division in Camden.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.